CHAPTER V—FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

(i) Food Supplies.

792. The following figures show the acreage and production (in tons) of cereals in the State for the year:— Acreage, Production and Requirement of Cereals in the State.

..	Area	Yield
Rice ..	22,02,137	10,91,307
Ragi ...	20,16,400	5,97,448
Jola ...	63,44,348	10,28,924

793. The requirement of the State on the basis of consumption of 16 ozs. per head per day for the population of the State as per 1951 census works out to 34,89,216 tons of cereals. The overall picture is that the State is deficit in respect of cereals to the extent of 7,71,500 tons and out of this rice alone comes to about 5,00,000 tons.

794. The Price Stabilisation Scheme sponsored by the Government of India was continued during the year. Rice was supplied to the State by the Government of India at the subsidised rates of Rs. 16 per maund of Burma Raw Rice and Rs. 20 per maund of American Fine Rice and this was issued to the *bona fide* consumers through Fair Price Depots at 2 seers per rupee in the case of Burma Raw Rice and 61 nP. per seer in the case of American Fine Rice. Price Stabilisation Scheme.

795. There were as many as 690 Fair Price Shops functioning in the State in January 1958 but consequent on the stoppage of supplies by the Government of India from February 1958, most of the Depots had to be closed down and there were only 109 Fair Price Depots functioning at the end of the year for issue of wheat only. A quantity of 24,578 tons of rice was issued through these depots.

796. With a view to return the stock of rice to Government of India and with a view to meet the demands of the State during the lean months of the year, the State sanctioned the scheme for voluntary purchase of paddy at open market prices to be fixed from time to time by the Deputy Commissioners under the general orders of Government in paddy surplus districts of the State. The main feature of the Voluntary Procurement of Paddy.

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scheme was that purchases should be in the open market on a purely voluntary basis. The co-operation of the Rice Millowners and Co-operative Societies who were willing to undertake the responsibility were enlisted in the Procurement Scheme.

Purchase of Ragi.

797. A quantity of 79 bags and 1 kore of 8 seers of ragi was purchased till the end of the year under this scheme in Chitradurga District and purchases were being continued.

Control Orders relating to Paddy/Rice.

798. The Control Orders relating to Paddy, Rice were promulgated during the year aimed mainly at checking the rise in the prices of essential commodities, particularly rice, by means such as imposition of restriction on movement, introduction of a system of licensing of dealers and millers, etc.

799. Among the important orders issued during the year were:—

(a) Rice (Southern Zone) Movement Control Order 1957:—This order issued on 9th July 1957 imposed with immediate effect the following restrictions on export and import of rice in relation to the Southern Zone, *i.e.*, the territory comprised in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madras and Mysore.

(i) No person shall export or attempt to export or abet the export of rice from any place within the Southern Zone except under and in accordance with a permit issued by the State Government concerned or any officer authorised in this behalf by that Government subject to the condition that such exports under permits shall be regulated in accordance with export quotas fixed by the Central Government in this behalf from time to time.

(ii) No person shall import or attempt to import or abet the import of rice into any place within the Southern Zone.

During the year, a quota of 100 tons of rice was fixed by the Central Government for export from Mysore State to places outside the Southern Zone for purposes of personal consumption of the applicants from the produce of their lands in the State, the export permits being issued by the Director of Food Supplies.

(b) Mysore Foodgrains (Movement) Control Order, 1957:—In order to prevent the smuggling in large quantities of rice to the border areas, particularly in Belgaum and North Kanara taluks, and then to smuggle them out of the Zone, the State Government issued a Notification with the concurrence of the Central Government, the Mysore Foodgrains (Movement) Control, Order 1957, stating that no person shall transport or attempt to transport by road, rail, river or air or in any other manner any foodgrains, except under and in accordance with a permit issued in that behalf by the Director of Food Supplies or the Collector or the Deputy Commissioner of the District concerned. This order had very salutary effect in checking the smuggling activities.

(c) Export of parched Rice or "Puri":—The Government of India agreed to permit the export of home made parched Rice or "Puri" or Mandakki manufactured by a number of poor families mostly in Chitradurga, Dharwar and Belgaum districts and are traditionally dependent for a living on this, to Poona and some other places in Bombay State where alone there is a market for these products.

(d) The Mysore Foodgrains Licensing and Storage (Regulation) Order, 1957:—In order to enable Government to keep a watch over the stock position and price and movement trends of foodgrains particularly rice, the Mysore Foodgrains Licensing and Storage (Regulation) Order, 1957 was promulgated during the year extending to the whole State of Mysore with immediate effect. The order states that no dealer shall at any time hold stocks of any of the "Food grains" (*i.e.*, rice, broken rice, rice in the husk and products thereof) exceeding 150 standard maunds and that no miller shall stock any of the foodgrains except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District.

The licensees were required to furnish fortnightly returns of stocks held, quantities purchased, quantities sold, *etc.*, to the Deputy Commissioners of the respective districts and the Director of Food Supplies.

Rice Mills

800. During the year, there was no control over rice mills in former Mysore State. The Madras Rice Mill Control Order, 1955 which was in force in the integrated

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areas of Madras State was cancelled with effect from 15th June, 1957. The Bombay Rice Mill and Flour Mill Control Orders were continued in the integrated areas of Bombay-Karnatak.

Distribution of Wheat and Wheat Products.

801. The Mysore State being usually deficit in regard to wheat and wheat products, considerable quantities of these were being imported into the State from wheat surplus areas in Northern India through trade channels. Consequent on the promulgation of the "Inter-Zonal Wheat Movement Control Order, 1957" issued under the Notification of Government of India, prohibiting the export and import of wheat from any zone except under and in accordance with a permit issued by the State Government concerned, there was a temporary dislocation of supplies and a scarcity of wheat products in the market. In order to see that no inconvenience was caused to the public in general and the bakers in particular and to regulate the distribution on an equitable basis, arrangements were made for the issue of permits for the release of wheat products from the Flour Mills directly.

802. The Government of India continued to supply imported wheat to the Roller Flour Mills in the State and also for retail sale through recognised dealers, so as to reduce the demand of rice. A quota of about 4,000 tons of wheat per month was fixed for the State and distribution made to Millers and to Fair Price Depots to the extent of their requirements. All wheat crushing mills (and especially Roller Mills) were given the full quotas indented for by them (due regard being had to the crushing capacity) subject to the condition that the wheat products would be sold at the rate fixed for each such product by the Government of India.

Sugar and Jaggery.

803. The revised policy of distribution of sugar to merchants in the free market as announced by the Government of India and also the release of sugar from the factories with the prior approval of the Government of India was continued during the year. The price ranged from Re. 1-28 to Re. 1-50 per viss (in retail) or Rs. 92 to Rs. 102 per bag of 2 cwt. (in wholesale), during the year. The supply position of sugar continued to be satisfactory.

804. There was no control over jaggery during the year.

805. The several measures undertaken by the Government under the Price Stabilisation Scheme had a very salutary effect as per open market prices of foodgrains in that the tendency for further rise was effectively checked. The prices, however, continued to be at a high level.

(ii) Food Production

806. The Department of Food production which was started in October 1949 was continued during the year.

Progress Under the Grow More Food Programme.

807. (1) Scheme for multiplication and distribution of improved seeds, setting up of seed farms for production of seeds (new scheme):—This scheme was further intensified during the year by opening a chain of seed Production farms, seed stores and distribution agency to maintain a continued flow of improved varieties of seeds to cultivators. This scheme covered up all the areas and major food crops in the new Mysore State.

(2) Distribution of Fertilisers:—The propaganda for the proper application of chemical manures in adequate doses in time and to popularise the increased use of superphosphate and new fertilisers like Urea and Ammonium Sulphate/Nitrate was continued with adequate stock of these fertilisers in the Departmental godowns situated all over the State for distribution through the Multipurpose Co-operative Societies and recognised private dealers.

The progress achieved during the year was as follows:—

Total quantity of fertilisers	Acreage benefited	Estimated Addnl. Production
36,790 tons	3,67,900	6,088 tons.

(3) Manufacture and Distribution of Urban Compost:—The Urban Compost Scheme was started in 1944 and has been continuing since then except for a brief interval of two years during 1949-50 and 1950-51.

The number of towns in the State where compost work has been introduced is 183.

To create an incentive in the ryots for using more urban compost to crops, the Government has been giving subsidy to the ryots by way of meeting the transport charges on compost at Rs. 2 per ton.